

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-11 ISO-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 131340Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9675

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMEMBASSY BONN

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 326

AXMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 030

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

US MISSION GENEVA 1160

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USUN NEW YORK 1611

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: ILO PFORS AORG IN

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL

REFS: A. STATE 018028; B. STATE 026630 C. NEW DELHI'S 1065 (NOTAL)

1. P.M. NAYAK, SECRETARY, GOI DEPT OF LABOR, WHO WILL BE GOI REP AT UPCOMING GOVERNING BODY (GB) SESSION, INFORMS THAT GOI HAS NOT YET FORMULATED POSITION ON DIRECTOR GENERAL VOTE. HOWEVER, NAYAK SAYS GOI COUNT ON BASIS OF COMMITTED AND PRESUMED POSITIONS IS THAT VOTE LIKELY TO BE VERY CLOSE.

2. NAYAK STATES THAT GOI INFORMED THAT GENERALLY WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVTS AND EASTERN EUROPEAN VOTES WILL GO TO BLANCHARD, WHILE LATIN AMERICAN, AFRICAN, AND SOME ASIAN VOTES WILL GO TO TEVEDODJRE. BULGARI AND POLAND NAYAK SAYS, HAVE ALREADY OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED FRENCH GOVT, AND USSR IS EXPECTED TO DO SO SHORTLY. USSR WORKER MEMBER ON GB ACCORDINGLY EXPECTED TO FALL IN LINE FOR BLANCHARD. NAYAK STATES HE CANNOT EXPLAIN SWITCH IN USSR POSITION, FROM WHAT GOI HAD HEARD EARLIER (HE DOES NOT SAY HOW) THAT USSR MIGHT FAVOR LDC CANDIDATE.

3. NAYAK STATES HE HAS AVOIDED DISCUSSING DG ELECTION WITH INDIAN WORKER AND EMPLOYER GB MEMBERS TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION OF ATTEMPTING TO INFRINGE UPON THEIR INDEPENDENCE. HOWEVER, HE STATE HE UNDERSTANDS NAVAL TATA, INDIAN EMPLOYER GB MEMBER, FAVORS BLANCHARD, AND THAT HE HAS HEARD THAT NORWEGIAN WORKER MEMBER COMMITTED TO VOTE FOR TEVEDODJRE.

4. ICFTU ARO SECRETARY, V.S. MATHUR, STATES ICFTU HAS REQUESTED MEMBERS OF ICFTU GROUP ON GB (INCLUDING KANTI MEHTA OF INTUC) NOT TO COMMIT THEMSELVES UNTIL ICFTU GROUP REVIEWS CANDIDACIES IN GENEVA. MATHUR SAYS KANTI MEHTA LEAVNG FOR GENEVA IN NEXT DAY OR SO WITH THIS UNDERSTANDING. MATHUR GAVE IMPRESSION THAT ONE OF FACTORS UPPERMOST IN DETERMINING ICFTU GROUP POSITION WOULD BE LARGE NUMBER OF VOTES AFRICANS CAN MUSTER AT ILO CONFERENCE WHICH ICFTU WOULD WANT IN ORDER TO ELECT ITS SLATE FOR WORKER GROUP FOR NEXT GOVERNING BODY.

5. IN GENERAL, NAYAK EXPECTED VOTE FOR DG TO REFLECT MIXTURE OF DIVERSE NATIONAL OUTLOOKS AND LDC VERSUS NON-LDC ALIGNMENTS, WITH SPLITS IN THE VOTING IN ALL THREE GROUPS. ALTHOUGH NAYAK TOLD US HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPECTS TO HAVE INSTRUCTION TO TAKE WITH HIM TO GENEVA FOR WHICH HE DEPARTS FEBRUARY 22, LABOR MINISTER TOLD US FEW DAYS AGO GOI NOW MIGHT JUST SIT ON FENCE. NAYAK MIGHT BE INSTRUCTED ONLY TO REPORT BACK SO THAT IN THE END GOI MEMBER WOULD SIMPLY VOTE FOR MOST LIKELY WINNER.

6. IN SIGNIFICANT REMARK DURING CONVERSATION, NAYAK INFORMED US GOI POLICY RE INDIAN EMPLOYER DELEGATE POSITION TO

ANNULA ILO CONFERENCE IS FOR IT TO ALTERNATE BETWEEN PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE SECTOR WITH PRIVATE SECTOR REP (I.E., NAVAL TATA) DESIGNATED
AS DLEGATE IN GB ELECTION YEARS. GOI, HE SAID, WANTED TO AVOID
PROBLEM IN ILO OVER POSSIBLE QUESTIONING OF INDEPENDENCE OF
INDIAN EMPLOYER DLEGATE AND THUS RISK LOSS OF SEAT INDIA HAS
HELD ON GB FOR MANY YEARS, AT NEXT CONFERENCE EMPLOYER GROUP
ELECTION.
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